

**INDIAN AFFAIRS**  
**CONTINGENCY PLAN Q & DOCUMENT**  
**APRIL 8, 2011**

We continue to hope that Congress will reach an agreement to avoid a government shutdown, but we are working to prepare for all possible scenarios. The following document provides information about the Indian Affairs' contingency plans in the event of a government shutdown.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**Will the BIA continue to provide law enforcement services?**

Yes. BIA will continue to provide uninterrupted public safety services such as patrols, uniform services, criminal investigations, detention and CFR/Tribal Courts.

**Will the jails be closed?**

No. Jails will continue to operate as law enforcement services will continue uninterrupted.

**INDIAN SERVICES**

**Will the Welfare Assistance Program continue to provide funds during a shutdown?**

No new funds will be available for disbursement during the shutdown as these funds are subject to annual appropriations. If a Tribe has drawn down the funds already, then the Tribe may continue to disburse the available funding.

**Will Child Protection Services be suspended if funding is halted?**

No. BIA-funded Social Workers will continue to be available.

**Will Tribes be allowed to drawdown funds within a P.L. 93-638 contract at any time during the shutdown?**

No. Staff which handles these transactions are subject to annual appropriations and will be furloughed. Further, until there is a funding bill enacted, no funds subject to annual appropriations can be disbursed by the U.S. Government.

**Will the Indian Reservation Road (IRR) Program and the road staff continue working during a shutdown?**

Yes. Employees funded under the Highway Trust Funds will continue working in the event of a furlough because the Highway Act (SAFETEA-LU, P.L. 93-638) has been extended to September 30, 2011.

**Will the road maintenance program continue to be operational?**

No. The Road maintenance program is subject to annual appropriations; therefore there are no new funds available during a shutdown.

**TRUST SERVICES**

**Will income derived from trust resources including oil and gas royalties, timber sales, rights of way, surface lease rentals and other activities be collected and distributed?**

Yes. These funds are not appropriated funds.

**Will Safety of Dams employees be available to address potential threats to dams under the BIA's jurisdiction?**

Yes. Safety of Dams Officers across the country will be at work.

**Will there be federal employees available to ensure that trespass does not occur on lands held in trust for Indian Tribes and individuals?**

No. This program is subject to annual appropriations.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**In the event of a furlough, will there be the capability for emergency procurements?**

Yes, Central Office, Reston, will assure that all acquisitions are made. One of DOI's Essential Support Activities is to provide acquisition support for emergency activities. Only emergency acquisitions will be processed.

**If a shutdown is ordered, how will Tribal contractors be notified?**

Contracting Officers (COs) will report to work on the first day of the shutdown and issue stop-work orders for all applicable contractors. Contractors will be responsible for notifying their employees.

**HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Will Homeland Security and Emergency Management information, coordination and assistance be effected or interrupted?**

No, those functions will continue uninterrupted.

**EDUCATION**

**Will the BIE-funded elementary schools be affected by the shutdown?**

No. The schools are on a different funding cycle than the annual fiscal year and will not be affected by the shutdown.

**Will students who receive Johnson O'Malley (JOM) be affected?**

Students will be impacted as there will be no JOM funds. The JOM program is funded by annual appropriations; without a funding bill, there will be no additional JOM funds to assist school age children in public or tribal schools with school costs such as classroom supplies.

**Will my children be safe at BIE-funded boarding schools during the shutdown?**

Health and safety are the highest priority for Indian Affairs during the shutdown. Support staff that oversee the school facilities and maintenance needs will be available during the shutdown to ensure safe and secure environments for all occupants.

**Will there be support staff at BIE-funded boarding schools?**

Yes.

**Will buses still run during the shutdown?**

Yes, school buses will continue their regularly scheduled bus routes.

**Will SIPI and Haskell remain open?**

Only if the shutdown period doesn't exceed 7 days. Otherwise, both higher education institutions will be closed due to lack of funding.

**Will students who receive assistance from their Tribes for Scholarships be affected?**

Yes, students who receive funds from their respective Tribes under the Indian Affairs-funded Scholarship program would be impacted. Until there is an appropriations measure enacted, these funds are subject to the annual appropriations limitation which means that there will be no new Scholarship funding available during the shutdown.

**Will students who benefit from the Special Higher Education Scholarships program be affected?**

Yes, these students will be affected as there will be no new funds available to support the program. The Indian Affairs-funded program is subject to annual appropriations.

**As a student, I receive funds from the Special Higher Education Scholarship program *Loan for Service Program*. Will I continue to receive these funds to cover my tuition costs during a shutdown?**

No, there will be no new funds available for this program due to the shutdown.

**How will students' credit hours at SIPI and Haskell be affected if sent home during mid-term?**

In general, students' credit hours, student loans, and graduation will be negatively affected, possibly lost, due to non-attendance. However, it will be on a case by case basis.

**How many students attend SIPI and Haskell?**

Approximately 2,000 students attend the postsecondary institutions.

**How will these students be able to get home if SIPI/Haskell is closed?**

The Bureau of Indian Education will implement a student transportation plan.

**As a Tribally-operated school funded by BIE appropriations, will my school still be able to submit and receive its drawdown requests?**

Indian Affairs will continue to receive such requests, however, no funds will be disbursed until there is a funding measure in place to fund the staff that processes such payments.

**SELF GOVERNANCE COMPACTS**

**Will Indian Affairs continue working with tribes in negotiating FY 2011 Funding Agreements?**

No. FY 2011 Funding Agreements that have not been completed will not continue during a shutdown.